

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS BANGKOK 004508

SIPDIS

GENEVA FOR RMA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREF](#) [PREL](#) [TH](#) [BURMA](#)

SUBJECT: THAI GOVERNMENT LETTER APPROVING U.S. RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM IN BURMA BORDER CAMPS

1. On July 8, Embassy received a letter from General Winai Phattiyakul, Secretary-General of the Thai National Security Council, which gives formal Thai government approval for the USG to undertake resettlement from the Thai-Burma border refugee camps. This letter responds to a May 2, 2005 letter from PRM DAS Kelly Ryan proposing such a resettlement program. Original of Winai letter will be sent to DAS Ryan.

2. Text of Winai letter follows:

No. 0803/4779

Office of the National Security Council
Government House
Bangkok 10300

July 6, 2005

Dear Ms. Ryan,

Reference is made to your letter dated 2nd May 2005 concerning the United States Government's decision on the expanding its assistance to Myanmar displaced people residing in temporary shelters along the Thai-Myanmar border. In this regard, a case raised during our last meeting concerning the beginning of the resettlement process of Myanmar displaced people at Tham Hin shelter, Ratchaburi province, would be a great initiative. I would like to inform you that the Royal Thai Government has agreed upon your proposal mentioned above and will make a cooperative effort to facilitate such resettlement program. In this respect, the first necessary process, which is needed to be completed, is that concerned Thai authority along with the UNHCR will work on the registration of those who reside in Tham Hin shelter. I am quite certain that our effort would yield a satisfactory outcome as it has been in the case of Wat Tham Krabok program and I hope our cooperation efforts in working on issues of Myanmar displaced people would be tremendously successful as good as ever.

The Royal Thai Government has always firmly complied with humanitarian principle in assisting Myanmar displaced people for over 20 years. As long as the concept of responsibility sharing concerned, we would be able to assist most of these unfortunate individuals to have a better live and future. As you are well aware of, the Royal Thai Government has taken an initiative toward improving education system in all the shelters as well as engaging in providing appropriate vocational trainings. I, again, would like to state that expanding vocational training and resettlement programs are our major policies dealing with displaced people issues and, at the same time, we wish that we would be able to solve this protracted refugee situation at the root cause, which will lead to durable solutions in the near future.

Your kind cooperation and necessary arrangement on the matter would be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
General Winai Phattiyakul
Secretary General

SIPDIS

End letter text.
BOYCE